



STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY  
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor  
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director  
Cleon B. Feight, Division Director

4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

March 19, 1982

Mr. Ron Thomas  
Midas Gilsonite, Inc.  
989 Jewel Avenue  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104

RE: Recent Development of State  
Lease ML 26607  
DOE/047/005  
Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Thank you for notifying our office of your company's intentions regarding the Gilsonite lease development. Tom Tetting, Engineering Geologist, Joe Helfrich, Field Supervisor and I conducted an inspection of the lease site on March 15, 1982.

The additional disturbance created by the recent development work which exposed the gilsonite vein on both sides of the road through State Lease ML 26607 and which obstructed a drainage channel along the southeasternmost extension of the development has disqualified the operation from the Exemption criteria of less than two acres of disturbance in a period of 12 consecutive months. Therefore, a Mining and Reclamation Plan for the development work should be submitted in accordance with Title 40-8-13 of the Mined Land Reclamation Act and Rule M-3 of the regulations.

Upon inspection of the site and in regard to Midas' development intentions, reclamation of the new disturbance is a viable alternative. I have listed below the required steps for adequate reclamation of the site:

1. Spoil material and debris must be removed from the drainage to re-establish the natural channel and flow.
2. All spoil piles should be backfilled into the excavation and graded to approximate the original contour. Measures (such as terracing, drainage control, cross-slope ripping and revegetation) should be implemented to assure the mass stability of the steep slope and minimize erosion.



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3. Disturbed areas should be seeded with a diverse mixture of perennial plants (both shrubs and grasses) that are adapted to the soils and climate of the site and applied in a manner to promote a self-sustaining cover.

Suitable species (applied at 20-25 lbs/ac of pure live seed [PLS]) include:

Indian ricegrass (Oryzopsis hymenoides)  
Galleta grass (Hilaria jamesii)  
Needle and thread grass (Stipa comata)  
Fourwinged saltbrush (Atriplex canescens)  
Shadscale (Atriplex confertifolia)  
Shortwinged saltbrush (Atriplex apetra)  
Bonneville saltbrush (Atriplex bonnevillensis)  
Gardner saltbrush (Atriplex gardneri)  
Cuneate saltbrush (Atriplex cuneata)

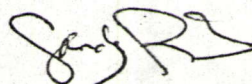
Any one of the following species, when applied at a rate of 2 lbs/ac PLS, in a mixture with several of the above species, may be used for early establishment and quick stabilization:

Russian wildrye (Elymus junceus)  
Western wheatgrass (Agropyron smithii)--3 lbs/ac PLS  
Fairway crested wheatgrass (Agropyron cristatum)

This reclamation work should be completed during the spring season of 1982 to insure suitable conditions for revegetation.

I have enclosed a copy of the Mined Land Reclamation Act and Regulations for your reference. If there are questions or problems regarding these requirements, please don't hesitate to contact the Division. We'll be pleased to work with you.

Sincerely,



SANDY PRUITT  
RECLAMATION OFFICER

Enclosure

cc: John Blake, Division of State Lands and Forestry

SP/btb